

Consolidated Translation Survey; published monthly by Foreign Documents Division, CIA, in cooperation with other Intelligence Advisory Committee Agencies

Reference: Memorandum dtd 16 March 1949, from Director of Central Intelligence to Standing Committee of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, subject: Central Translation of Intelligence Material

1. CIA/Foreign Documents Division central translation coordination was proposed in referenced memorandum, in which Directors of Intelligence, Army, Navy, State and Air concurred, "to the end that there may be minimum duplication of foreign-language document exploitation effort and maximum utilization of these materials for intelligence purposes."

2. Agreement 1. above is being implemented by FDD by means of:

a. Subject Survey* (first published issue dtd 23 Nov 49 was Consolidated Translation Survey for October, 1949).

b. Central Foreign-language Document Exploitation File (DEX). Foreign Documents Division maintains this cross-index as a necessary anti-duplication measure. This card file is used also to answer frequent authorized inquiries (telephonic and/or written) regarding exploitation of foreign-language documents on specified subjects, and to keep current record of translations done by the Intelligence Advisory Committee agencies participating in subject Survey.

3. Duplicating exploitation of foreign-language material of common intelligence interest often occurs where least expected. Prevalent procedure among intelligence officers of the agencies is photostating, or other costly reproduction and dissemination of foreign-language documents, many recipients of which then either translate themselves, or later send to FDD with duplicating requests for FDD translation.

FDD fails frequently to minimize duplicating exploitation. Usually this is because translation projects contemplated or initiated by other agencies are not fully listed for timely entry in

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the CIA/FDD central translation file (DEX, 2b. above), because other translation activities do not consult the Consolidated Translation Survey, or because the record at FDD is not consulted before translations are started.

* A compilation of projects, based on exploitation of foreign-language documents, completed or started during the month preceding this publication. Project information is listed by area and subject category. Scientific projects are grouped as a section without regard for geographic area. Title of the project in English, author, security classification, foreign-language title of source material, date and data of publication, repository identification of the original document, and publication identification of the completed project are given when available.

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